



REPORT TO THE NORTH WALES ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD

20 March, 2020

TITLE: *Programme Governance*

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to present the proposed programme governance arrangements for the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. Endorse the principle of adopting a programme and project management approach to the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal, including the establishment of Programme Boards to oversee operational delivery.
- 2.2. Endorse the principle of appointing a Lead Member for each programme as a link between the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and the individual Programme Boards and to request a further paper outlining the role and the wider governance arrangements prior to a final decision on the appointment of Lead Members.
- 2.3. Approve the proposed delivery structure as set out in **Appendix 1** and delegate authority to the Programme Director in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and the Executive Support Group to implement the programme governance arrangements and make all other appointments (excluding the Lead Member role) to the Programme Boards.
- 2.4. That the existing sub-groups for Energy and Digital, will be replaced by the Programme Boards once established.

3. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 3.1. The Programme Office needs to adopt a programme governance model to ensure the successful delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. The North Wales Growth Deal is a complex portfolio consisting currently of 14 projects across six programmes of work, with a total value of approx. £1billion to be delivered over the next 15 years. An additional Skills Programme sits outside the terms of the Growth Deal but is a crucial component of delivering the vision for North Wales. It is to be delivered by the Programme Office, on behalf of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, a partnership of six local authorities, two universities, two further education establishments and a business council. Given the scale and complexity of the partnership and the portfolio of work to be delivered, there is a need to establish a clear model for portfolio, programme and project governance.

4.2. It is proposed that the North Wales Economic Ambition Board adopt a delivery model based on a best practice approach to portfolio, programme and project management as set out in 'Government Functional Standard GovS 002: Project Delivery'. Portfolio, programme and project management is an integrated way of meeting an organisations ambitions, driving better decisions and increasing the likelihood of successful outcomes.

4.3. **Appendix 1** sets out the proposed governance approach.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. None at this stage.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The recommendations in the report are based on a best practice model set out in 4.2 above. The North Wales Economic Ambition Board has power within GA1 to establish either statutory sub-committees or other groups to support its functions. In this case formal sub-committees are not proposed. As is highlighted in the report if the principle of the approach is approved detailed terms of reference and decision making will be developed as well as finalising the membership arrangements and governance arrangements around the advisory bodies. These will be reported to the Board for final approval.

7. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

7.1. None at this stage.

8. IMPACT ON EQUALITIES

8.1. None at this stage.

9. CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN

9.1. The contents of this report was discussed by the Executive Support Group on the 6th March, 2020.

APPENDICES:

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| Appendix 1 | Developing a Portfolio, Programme and Project Governance model for the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal |
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STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. **Monitoring Officer – Host Authority:**

"I have contributed to the legal section of the report. I have no further observations to add from a propriety perspective."

ii. **Statutory Finance Officer (the Host Authority's Section 151 Officer):**

"I am generally supportive of the proposed programme governance arrangements. I trust that spending powers will be retained by the Joint Committee (NWEAB) and the Programme Director, as appropriate."